

Ms. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary public school in my district, less than 1 mile from my house, Wiley Elementary School.

For the second time in 5 years, Wiley has been named a top magnet elementary school in the Nation for its dedication to excellence.

It is both an international magnet and a true neighborhood school. A diverse and welcoming community, Wiley's teachers, faculty, parents, and staff go above and beyond to ensure that every student receives the best education possible.

Wiley offers the International Studies Magnet Program, which allows students to take as many as eight electives, including five foreign languages, in elementary school. Through this program, students are able to learn about cultures other than their own and experience diverse perspectives.

I believe the foundation to a quality education begins in elementary school, and I know that Wiley is setting students up for success.

I am honored to represent Wiley Elementary School in Congress, and I am awed by all that their children achieve.

#### CANCELING MOTHERS

(Mr. MOONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOONEY. Madam Speaker, this past weekend, we celebrated Mother's Day, a day for families across our great Nation to honor our mothers.

God has blessed me with a wife, the mother of our three beautiful children, including two daughters.

My own mother, Lala, has instilled in me the values I am proud to cherish today, including my faith and belief in family. My mother, who is almost 80 years old, fled Communist Cuba under the Castro regime and is now a proud American. Her love of country inspires me each day.

Mother's Day was founded by West Virginia native Anna Jarvis in 1908. But the radical left, including some Members of Congress, have begun referring to mothers as "birthing people."

NARAL, the pro-choice lobbying group, tweeted on May 6: "When we talk about birthing people, we are being inclusive. It is that simple."

The canceling of the term "mother" actually began here in the Congress when Speaker PELOSI changed the House Rules package and eliminated the words "mother," "father," "son," and "daughter," and replaced them with "parent" and "child."

It defies common sense that the cancel culture and some Members of Congress would seek to cancel the term "mother." It is wrong that we cannot celebrate mothers on the House floor. All mothers play an important role.

#### ENSURING PAST INJUSTICES ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

(Ms. BOURDEAUX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Madam Speaker, as we continue to grapple with the issues of race and justice in our country, I rise today to share a story of tragedy and progress from my own district.

More than a century ago, Charlie Hale, a young African-American male in Lawrenceville, Georgia, was abducted, brought into the city square, strung up, and shot simply because of the color of his skin. No arrests were ever made in his murder.

Decades passed. Charlie's name was forgotten, and in a cruel twist of irony, a Confederate monument was erected mere steps away from the site of his murder. And so it stood for decades, until now.

That Confederate monument stands no longer. It was removed following our country's long-overdue racial reckoning this past year. In its place will stand a memorial to the life and death of Charlie Hale.

I want to recognize the leadership of Marlene Taylor-Crawford and her work with the Gwinnett Remembrance Coalition Project, the Gwinnett Historical Restoration and Preservation Board, and all the activists who pushed for this change for years.

The dirt where his blood was spilled will be collected and displayed in perpetuity in Gwinnett County, as well as the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery.

I want to be clear: Even more than a century later, this does not make things right by Charlie Hale or those who loved him and lost him. But it does take an important step to ensure the injustices of the past are not forgotten.

#### GETTING AMERICA BACK TO WORK

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, at a time when the economy should be roaring back, we just witnessed one of the worst monthly job reports in history because of the Biden administration's socialist policies.

Despite States loosening restrictions on businesses, the unemployment rate has actually gone up. Why? Because the Democrats want to pay people to sit at home rather than actually go to work. Republicans in Congress warned about this, and, lo and behold, we were right.

While campaigning, candidate Biden promised to shut down the virus, not the economy. Well, the virus has been shut down because of Operation Warp Speed, yet now President Biden has shut down businesses because he pays people to stay at home.

My eastern North Carolina district is set to have a huge tourist season, but they can't find anybody to come to work, the same with boatbuilders, hotels, and other businesses. They cannot open up normally. They cannot open their doors because the administration's socialist policies want to pay people to stay at home.

America, despite your government, you need to get back to work.

#### EXPANDED CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I represent a working-class district in Chicago, and my community has been especially hard-hit by the pandemic.

I have one of the largest percentages of school-age children in my district, and my neighbors are worried about putting food on the table. I have seen the lines at food banks grow and grow.

But the expanded child tax credit in the American Rescue Plan changes that. Nearly 90 percent of the children in my district will benefit. And more than 40,000 households will get an average of \$3,300, parents like Jaime in Logan Square, who will finally be able to send his son to college this year at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign thanks to this tax credit.

This program is about helping their children thrive, and in my community, it is already working.

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#### HONORING RALPH PUCKETT

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable individual from my district, Colonel Ralph Puckett, a 94-year-old veteran who will soon receive the Nation's highest award, the Medal of Honor.

Colonel Puckett is a Georgia native and a graduate of West Point. Soon after graduating, he was deployed to fight in Korea in the 8th Army Ranger Company. In November of 1950, he heroically led his Ranger company on a freezing day at the Battle for Hill 205. His platoon was overcome by an onslaught of Chinese attackers and a barrage of artillery fire. Colonel Puckett sustained severe injuries during this attack.

Although his injuries incapacitated him, Colonel Puckett selflessly ordered Private First Class Billy G. Walls and Private First Class Davis L. Pollock to leave him on the battlefield. He could see the Chinese soldiers within yards of attacking his Rangers, but his comrades returned to carry him to safety, despite the danger.

Colonel Puckett went on to serve honorably in Colombia, Germany, and Vietnam until his retirement in 1971.

Though his Active Duty has ended, he continues to serve as Honorary Colonel of the 75th Ranger Regiment, and he still inspires young people in his community today.

Colonel Puckett was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame and received a Distinguished Service Cross for his actions at Hill 205, in addition to two Silver Stars, five Purple Hearts, various awards from Vietnam and Colombia, and a Distinguished Graduate Award from West Point. His bravery is a testament to his strength and patriotism, and he is an inspiration to the people of the Third District of Georgia, as well as our country.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Puckett and extending our sincere appreciation to him and all of our men and women in uniform. As a nation, we are forever grateful for their service and their sacrifice.

#### CONGRATULATING THE FIRST CLASS OF GRADUATES FROM THE KIRK KERKORIAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the historic first class of medical students to graduate from the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Four years ago, the 50 students of this inaugural class donned their white coats, pledged their formal oaths, and began their lifelong medical journeys.

But for southern Nevada, this was more than your average first day of school. Nevada has consistently ranked among the lowest rates in doctors per capita; and before this class, Las Vegas was the largest metro area in the Nation without a medical school capable of bestowing M.D. degrees.

These graduates are pioneers in providing for the health of our community, and their dedication to home is clear. Ninety-seven percent of this class hails from the Battle Born State, and well over one-third of the graduates will stay right here to continue their education.

We cannot thank them enough for their dedication to the health of our community, especially in the midst of this pandemic.

Congratulations to the UNLV Medical graduates.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize National Police Week.

Our police officers put their lives on the line every single day they go to work. They answer the call of duty on

holidays, weekends, birthdays, and through the COVID-19 pandemic to selflessly protect our communities.

When I was chair of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, I introduced a resolution to recognize Law Enforcement Appreciation Day in Orange County because now, more than ever, we owe these brave officers our support and appreciation.

I am especially grateful for our Capitol Police officers who have been through so much this year with the devastating loss of multiple officers in the line of duty.

Thank you to all police officers for your continued bravery. I and so many others are proud to stand with you today and every day.

#### BENEFITS OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, the American Rescue Plan is the most transformative economic legislation for working families in a generation.

Our expansion of the child tax credit will literally cut child poverty in half. But unless we make the expansion permanent, we will find ourselves a year from now in the same dire straits that existed before the pandemic: A country where we accept that 11 million people live in poverty, nearly 15 percent of all children in this country; a country where we accept that 25 percent of Black children live in poverty.

I have been in Congress for 5 months and I am already tired of having to vote to reauthorize things that we know should be permanent. Expanding the child tax credit is a moral and economic imperative. It should not have an expiration date.

For the last year, we have talked about the impossible choices that families have been forced to make: childcare or healthcare; food or rent.

The reality is, these impossible choices existed for millions of families before the pandemic began, and they will continue to exist after the pandemic is over. Poverty is a choice that we make here in this Chamber, and we can choose to end it.

#### COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS DONALD KEITH STRICKLAND

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Sergeant First Class Donald Keith Strickland. Donald passed away recently after a long life of service to his country, his fellow Americans, and his family.

Standing with me today is my good friend, Representative ALEX MOONEY of West Virginia. We are both dear friends

of Donald's son, Tony Strickland, who I served in the legislature with and who has a long relationship with this great person here.

What you see in a legacy with a man like Donald, who was an Army staff sergeant, also known as a drill sergeant—which, by the way, the family home was known as “strict land” because it was very strict there due to that background. The legacy shows the great family that we know with Tony and his kids and all the wonderful grandchildren that Mr. Donald Strickland had.

He is survived by his wife, Antonie; his three children; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The legacy of how we are measured is truly in your family and what you leave behind as you touch your country.

For our dear friend Tony, our hearts are with you in the loss of your father, and God bless you all.

#### HONORING LOCAL POLICE OFFICERS

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I recently toured my district to meet members of the community nominated by their fellow residents who served their fellow citizens extraordinarily during the pandemic.

During my tour, I had the honor of meeting Mena Police Chief Tommy Stueart and Bearden Police Chief Nathan Greeley. These men cared for their communities by delivering food and prescriptions and taking care of the sick and elderly, all while dealing with their own staff shortages.

When our local police officers go to work, they wear many hats. Of course, they are protectors, but they also play the role of nurse, comforter, teacher, caretaker, and confidant.

Ask any police officer and they will say it is just part of the job, but it is a grave mistake to take this for granted.

Madam Speaker, another grave mistake is the Democrats' move to defund police. This National Police Week, let's honor the heroism and the daily kindnesses shown by our law enforcement, and let's work to support those brave men and women who protect and serve.

#### HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT

(Mr. BAIRD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in honor of National Police Week, a week where we honor the men and women who risk their lives every day to protect and serve our neighborhoods.

I want to take this opportunity to highlight some of the great work from